

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4-10, 12-20 are pending, of which, claims 1, 4-6, 9, 10, 12-15, 18, and 19 are rejected and claim 20 is allowed. Claim 8, which is dependent from allowed claim 20, should also be allowable, rather than objected to. Claim 21 has been cancelled and therefore, its rejection has been mooted.

Claims 7-8 and 16-17 continue to be objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but otherwise allowable.

The objections to the drawings have been noted and proposed corrections appended to this amendment.

The 35 USC §112, ¶2 informality of claim 12 has been noted and corrected.

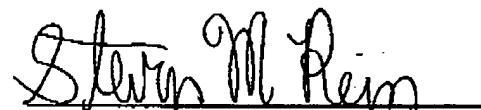
The Examiner rejected claims 1, 4-6, 9-10, 12-15 and 18-19 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Tornier (U.S. Patent No. 5,358,526). The Examiner notes that Tornier's head may take an infinite number of positions but it is his locking member than actually limits the number of positions in which the head may be used. However, as claims 1 and 12 are now amended, these claims now require the ability for the locking member to lock the connecting member in any of the infinite positions. While the Examiner points to Applicant's detents, these are neither required nor claimed and should not be read into the claims. Thus, for at least this reason, Tornier does not anticipate claims 1 and 12 or any claims dependent therefrom.

In light of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that all the claims are allowable and an early indication as such is requested.

If any additional fees are required to enter the present amendment, Applicant hereby authorizes the Office to charge our deposit account, Deposit Account No. 502795. If the Examiner feels that prosecution of the present application can be materially advanced by a telephonic interview, the undersigned would welcome a call at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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